

REMARKS

Applicants thank the Examiner for a careful and comprehensive consideration of their previously-presented arguments.

Claims 1-15 are pending in this application (claims 16-30 were subjected to an election requirement and withdrawn). Claims 1-15 stand rejected. In response to the above-identified Office Action, Applicants cancel claims 16-30 and amend claims 1, 9 and 12. Support for the amendments is at, for example, p. 6, ll. 1-3; p. 6, l. 29 – p. 7, l. 1; and p. 8, ll. 10-11 and 21-23. Reconsideration in light of the preceding amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

I. Claims Rejected Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

The Examiner rejected claims 1-15 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over *Distributed Systems, Concepts and Design* by Coulouris *et al.* (“*Coulouris*”) in view of *Operating System Concepts*, 5th ed. By Silberschatz (“*Silberschatz*”).

Claim 1 recites a method comprising several operations, including maintaining first and second page table maps for use in isolated and normal execution modes, respectively; and restricting access to an isolated area of memory to bus cycles performed in the isolated execution mode. The Examiner asserts that the page tables and execution modes are disclosed by *Silberschatz*, as processes operating either independently (isolated, without pages of shared memory), or non-independently (with shared memory). However, neither *Silberschatz* nor *Coulouris*, nor the two together, teach or suggest restricting access to an isolated area of memory to bus cycles performed in the isolated execution mode. Restricting access on this basis is an aspect of Applicants’ invention clearly removed from the level of abstraction of the references of record. *Coulouris*, for example, discusses “hardware” and “processor registers” generally as responsible for separating (and/or sharing) threads’ memory spaces (*see Coulouris*, pp. 169 and 173). For at least these reasons, Applicants submit that claim 1 is patentable over the references of record, and request that the Examiner withdraw this rejection.

Claims 2-8 depend directly or indirectly on claim 1, and are believed to be patentable at least for the reasons discussed above. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the rejections of these claims also.

Claim 9 recites an apparatus comprising several elements, including an isolated execution circuit to generate isolated access bus cycles, wherein isolated access bus cycles are to be used if the apparatus operates in an isolated execution mode. Claim 9 stands rejected as unpatentable over *Coulouris* and *Silberschatz, supra*, but as discussed above, those references fail to teach or suggest at least the claimed isolated access bus cycles which are used if the apparatus operates in an isolated execution mode. Applicants respectfully submit that claim 9 is also patentable over the references of record and ask that the current rejections be withdrawn. Claims 10 and 11, which depend from claim 9, are patentable for at least the same reasons.

Claim 12 recites a platform comprising several components, including an isolated execution circuit as discussed in reference to claim 9. For similar reasons, claim 12 and its dependent claims 13-15 are believed to be patentable over the references of record, so withdrawal of the rejections of claims 12-15 is requested.

CONCLUSION

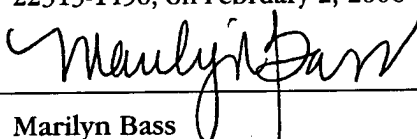
In view of the foregoing, it is believed that all claims now pending, namely claims 1-15, patentably define the subject invention over the prior art of record, and are in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited at the earliest possible date. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would be useful in moving the application forward to allowance, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned at (310) 207-3800.

Respectfully submitted,
BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN, LLP



Dated: February 2, 2006,

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| <p>12400 Wilshire Boulevard Seventh Floor Los Angeles, California 90025 (310) 207-3800</p> | <p>CERTIFICATE OF MAILING: I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on February 2, 2006</p> <p></p> | |
| | <p>Marilyn Bass</p> | <p>February 2, 2006</p> |